

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 SSM-03 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 OMB-01

/095 W

-----151024Z 088052 /10

P R 151000Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4256

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TRIPOLI 0476

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, LY, EG

SUBJ: LIBYA EXPLAINS ITS CASE AGAINST EGYPT

1. IN AN ATTEMPT TO SWAY DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL OPINION, COL. QDHAFI HAS DECIDED TO EXPLAIN HIS CASE AGAINST EGYPT THROUGH THE LOCAL MEDIA AND DEMARCHE'S TO DIPLOMATIC MISSION HERE AND TO ARAB, ISLAMIC AND AFRICAN COUNTRIES ABROAD. THE DEMARCHE OF LIBYA'S FOREIGN SECRETARIAT DESCRIBED ALLEGED TERRORISTS ACTS PERPETRATED BY EGYPTIANS. THE NOTE CLAIMS THE BENGHAZI BRANCH OF THE EGYPTIAN RELATIONS WAS USED FOR ESPIONAGE AND CONSPIRACIES AGAINST LIBYANS. IT FURTHER CLAIMS THE BURNING OF THE LIBYAN CONSULATE IN ALEXANDRIA WAS CARRIED OUT BY EGYPTIAN INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS UNDER THE COMMAND OF A COLONEL ADEL FAWZI. THE COLONEL ALLEGEDLY INFORMED THE LIBYAN

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BRANCH DIRECTOR THAT THE OFFICE WAS BURNED ON THE ORDERS OF THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT. THE NOTE INDICATES THAT EGYPT CONTINUES TO CONSPIRE AGAINST LIBYA, AND THE EGYPTIAN EMBASSY IN TRIPOLI AND CONSULATE IN BENGHAZI ARE THE CENTERS FOR TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. THE EGYPTIANS WERE ALSO ACCUSED OF THE SEPTEMBER BOMB INCIDENT IN BENGHAZI. THE NOTE PLACED THE BLAME FOR THESE ALLEGED ACTIVITIES ON EGYPTIAN CONSUL MOHAMMAD REDA, "CODE NAMED MAJOR

SAMIR."

2. A SECOND DEMARCHE WAS ALSO PUBLISHED IN THE LOCAL PRESS. IT CLAIMED THAT LIBYAN CONSULATE IN ALEXANDRIA WAS "A TARGET OF A PLANNED ATTACK OF MORE THAN 200 EGYPTIAN INTELLIGENCE AGENTS." THE NOTE DESCRIBED THE "HEROIC" EFFORTS OF LIBYAN OFFICIALS TO PROTECT THE CONSULATE. IT FURTHER STATES THAT LIBYAN DELEGATES TO THE ARAB LEAGUE IN CAIRO WERE HARASSED AND PREVENTED FROM LEAVING EGYPT. THE NOTE CLAIMS THE ALLEGED ACTS ARE A VIOLATION OF THE VIENNA CONVENTION AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL LAWS. THE DEMARCHE ENDS CALLING FOR THE TRANSFER OF THE ARAB LEAGUE HEAD-QUARTERS FROM CAIRO.

3. COMMENT: AS ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS WHEN QADHAFI PERCEIVES A DANGEROUS ESCALATION OF INCIDENTS BETWEEN EGYPT AND LIBYA, THE COLONEL TAKES HIS CASE TO THE PUBLIC TO GAIN SUPPORT. THUS CURRENT DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITIES MAY BE DESIGNED TO BACKAWAY FROM DANGEROUS CONFRONTATION AND PLACE DISPUTE IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, LY, EG, (QADHAFI, MU'AMMAR)  
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